

Karameh Battle Revived



Fateh Rockets Haifa Tanks

HAIFA - Fateh bazooka rockets hit fuel storage tanks in east Haifa Nov.21, sending flames and smoke leaping over Haifa Bay. A military spokesman for the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command said.

The explosions caused by the direct bazooka rocket hits shook the port city at 8:40 p.m., local. Flames and additional explosions continued until the following day.

It was the fifth major Fateh operation in Haifa this year and the third within a month. It also came only 24 hours after Zionist authorities announced they had smashed a Palestinian "sabotage ring responsible for recent blasts in Haifa."

Oil installations in the port city of Haifa have so far been the target of four major Fateh attacks June 24, August 15, Nov.

Jews Protest Zionist Policy

JERUSALEM - About 200 Jewish people, mostly students, staged Nov.25 a silent protest demonstration outside the Knesset (parliament) building to condemn the Zionist policy of collective punishment against Palestinian Arabs.

A three man delegation, representing the Jewish demonstrators, was allowed to present a signed petition to the office of the Knesset speaker.

The demonstration was held with police permission on a hill overlooking the Knesset building, following a recent statement by the Minister of Defense, Moshe Dayan, which said at Palestinian civilians who helped or failed to report Palestinian commanders, near the scene of an incident, would also be "punished."

14 and Nov.21. On Oct.22-23 five Fateh bomb blasts in 24 hours rocked residential quarters in Haifa as a warning against continuation of Zionist policy to blow up the houses of Palestinian Arab civilians. The Israeli authorities admitted 22 casualties in the Oct.22-23 explosions.

Unable again to conceal the Nov.21 Fateh attack on Haifa oil installations, Israel Radio reported that two tanks were hit directly and firemen were trying to put out the blaze while army units pressed a hunt in the

area for "suspects." Israeli police officials said a nightwatchman sighted and fired on a car leaving the scene of the fire, but the car escaped undamaged.

Fateh bazooka rockets ripped the Haifa fuel tanks only 24 hours after Israel announced in Haifa she had arrested 31 Palestinian Arabs in police raids culminating in the rounding up of six men in Acre. A Haifa police spokesman claimed that those arrested in Acre were "responsible for recent blasts in Haifa."

Commandos Prefer Death To Surrender

ACRE - Two Fateh freedom fighters blew themselves up Nov.25 in their own car, loaded with explosives they intended to use in "Operation Hailuf" in Haifa, when Israeli troops caught up with them on the entrance to the town of Acre on the Mediterranean coast and 20 miles north of Haifa.

The two heroes are Ahmad Mohammed Basheer, 28 and Omar Hussein Mansour, 27.

Other members of the same Fateh squad made it to Haifa and planted explosives in Haifa Haikmal and at a petrol station at the other end of the port city.

The dramatic explosion killed or wounded an undetermined number of Israeli troops and damaged neighboring buildings. Shortly before midnight the two Fateh heroes had set out to Haifa from their village, Majd el-Kurum, 10 miles east of Acre. They succeeded in breaking through an Israeli patrol which tried to intercept them on the outskirts of the old crusader city of 34,000. The patrol caught up with them however near the Jewish quarter at the entrance of the ancient town, where they blew themselves up in their explosive-laden Vauxhall.

Israeli occupation troops carried out searches in Majd el-Kurum and made an undetermined number of arrests there.

The incident heightened tensions in Acre, where earlier several hundred Zionists tried to storm the old city where Pa-

in an atmosphere reminiscent of al-Karameh battle, Lebanese civilians and artillery units joined Fateh and other Palestinian commandos in successfully thwarting an Israeli helicopter-borne attack on South Lebanon Dec.3.

Licking their wounds, the enemy troops, estimated at 400, withdrew while dropping smoke bombs to cover their heavy losses. They officially confessed only six casualties, including the death of one of the commanding officers of the helicopter-borne raid at the Akroub area, on the slopes of snow-capped Mount Hermon.

A spokesman for the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command said commando casualties were nine dead (six from Sa'ea and three from Fateh) and 13 injured (eight from Fateh and five from Sa'ea). The spokesman said several Lebanese civilians, including a woman were injured.

The spokesman said the enemy paved the way for his helicopter-borne attack with intermittent heavy artillery fire against the Akroub area starting 5:30 a.m., Dec.3, and until 8:15 a.m., when enemy artillery fire was intensified to cover the areas of Kar Shouba, Habbaryeh and Wadi Asaal. The commandos returned the fire until 10:10 a.m.

Helicopter-borne enemy paratroopers were landed in the area at 10:15 a.m. A violent clash between the Palestinian freedom fighters and the enemy paratroopers followed 15 minutes later. The commandos were able to gain full control of the battle, forcing the enemy to send at 11:00 a.m. a new wave of helicopter-borne reinforcements which in turn came under heavy commando fire.

The enemy started his retreat under heavy artillery and smoke screen cover around noon. The enemy was forced to evacuate the area completely by 1:00 p.m., leaving behind weapons and ammunition but carrying his dead and wounded.

Tareq Ali Denied US Visa

WASHINGTON - The State Department blocked Dec.3 a visit to the United States by Tareq Ali, the Palestinian-British student leader who was to deliver the keynote address at a convention on the Palestine Revolution opening Dec.5 at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Ali, editor of Black Dwarf and editor and contributor to the recently published The New Revolutionaries, was invited by the Association of Arab-American University Graduates, Inc. to deliver the keynote speech opening its Second Annual Convention. The 5-7 convention at Wayne State University is on the Palestine Revolution: Its International, Social and Technical Dimensions.

Ali's speech was to be on the Palestine revolution and War of National Liberation. A lawyer for the association said the State Department's action was part of the U.S. Administration's efforts to suppress points of views at various universities.

US officials claimed they were denying the visa to Ali for his prominent participation in an antiwar demonstration Nov.13 outside the U.S. embassy in London.

lestinian Arab lives. The march by the Zionist gangs who were demanding the restoring of military government in Arab areas (which had been in effect from 1948 to 1966) followed the Nov.20 announcement of the arrest in Acre of alleged local Fateh men on suspicion of being responsible for a series of guerrilla attacks in the Haifa area.

The fact that a Jewish woman in her late 20's, the wife of one of the arrested Palestinian Arabs, had also been taken into custody on suspicion of abetting and aiding, increased the Zionist gangs' wrath.

In a Zionist demonstration Saturday night, Nov.23, before the explosion, a Palestinian Arab on a motorcycle was stopped and beaten up by roaming Zionist hoodlums.

The angry Zionist gangs completely lost their mind on the morning of Nov.23, a few hours after the car explosion, and marched on the Palestinian Arab quarter of the town.

Worried Palestinian shopkeepers pulled down their shut-

ters and restaurants closed in the Arab quarter. Israeli police dispersed young Palestinians in the old city gathering to confront the onslaught, arming themselves with knives and clubs to resist the impending Zionist incursion.

An Israeli politician who attempted to arrest a Zionist hoodlum assuming a Palestinian was in turn set upon by the Zionist crowd.



Omar Mansour

Swiss Group Supports Fateh

The Information Bulletin of the Study Group on the Middle East which is headquartered in Geneva (General Secretary Georges Vaucher) carried the following commentary in its 18th edition of Nov. 7:

We shall confine ourselves to remark:

1. That the article of Mr. Hodgkin on the harshness of the occupation regime imposed on Palestine by Israel only confirms the numerous testimonies recorded by the Experts Group of the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations, the commission which was denied access into occupied territories by the Israeli authorities.

2. That, *The Times*, by asserting in its editorial entitled "To Be Fair to Both" that "it is fair for the Jews to have a national state," seems to admit that the late Lord Balfour and the United Nations Assembly had the right to create this state in Palestine, WITHOUT CONSULTING THE PALESTINIAN POPULATION. The English daily thus reproaches by the English daily of the Palestinian movement Fateh, which however was not taken seriously until it took up arms against the armed occupation of its homeland.

3. That, being the legitimate owners of the Palestinian territory, it is up to the Palestinian people to say under what conditions they accept the implantation, on their native land, of a Jewish colonization hailing in a major part from Poland, Russia, Germany and various other countries in North Africa and the Middle East.

By revuiving against the establishment of a racist and professional Jewish state while accepting that the Jews having come to Palestine shall coexist freely with the Moslem and Christian Palestinians in a secular and democratic state without any distinction as to race or religion, the resistance organization Fateh proves its broad-mindedness and its desire for peace.

4. In its issue of October 24, 1969, the weekly publication "Fateh" reports the more recent case of torture of the young Palestinian, Miss Latifa Hamawi, at Ramleh Prison.

Can't 'Amnesty International' investigate the genuineness of this accusation?

Study Group on the Middle East

Re Pedro-Maylan 1

(angle 5, av. Kriegel)

1208 Geneva, Suisse.

Acheson Opposed The Establishment Of Israel

In his new book, *Present at the Creation: My Years at the State Department*, former Secretary of State Dean Acheson bares for the first time his opposition to the establishment of the Israeli state in "Arab Palestine" (Acheson's own expression). The differences over the Palestine question marked his only major disagreement with President Truman.

"I did not share the President's view on the Palestine solution to the pressing and desperate plight of great numbers of displaced Jews in Eastern Europe. The numbers that could be absorbed by Arab Palestine without creating a grave problem would be inadequate, and to transform the country into a Jewish state capable of receiving a million more immigrants would vastly exacerbate the political problem and imperil not only American but all Western interests in the Near East. From Justice Brandeis, whom I revered, and Felix Frankfurter, my intimate friend, I had learned to understand, but not to share, the mystical emotion of the Jews to return to Palestine and end the Diaspora. In urging Zionism as an American Government policy, they had allowed, so I thought, their emotion to obscure the totality of American interest."

This book marks the first public pronouncement in this vein by an important American official since James Forrestal.

Palestinian Resistance Refuses Tutelage

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These were the salient remarks in two lectures delivered by officials of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Fateh, to packed audiences at the American and Arab universities in Beirut Nov. 23 and Dec. 1, respectively.

Both speakers reiterated that the Palestinian Revolution wanted a strong, independent and sovereign Lebanon to stand by its side against the common Zionist enemy. Both said the Palestinian Revolution was equally determined not to allow any obstacle to obstruct the path of its struggle for liberation.

Both reiterated also Fateh's refrain from attacking targets outside the occupied homeland, particularly civilian targets because "we regard Israel as the heart of imperialism and do not need to make itself known to the world any more."

The two speakers also condemned attempts to equate the liberation struggle into small commando organizations under one pretext or the other.

Here is a summary of the stages through which the Palestinian Revolution has gone since its inception as presented by one of the speakers:

Bringing the Palestinian Revolution to triumphant birth necessitated recourse to violence and armed struggle in occupied Palestine. In the words of Frantz Fanon - National liberation, national renaissance, the restoration of nationhood to the people; whatever may be the headings used or the various formulas introduced, DECOLONIZATION IS ALWAYS A VIOLENT PHENOMENON.

Fateh waited from 1958 to the eve of 1965 to launch its first commando operations against the Zionist colonial-settlers' project to divert the Jordan River waters after realizing that the Arab governments were not giving priority to the war for recovery of Palestine.

For two subsequent years, the nucleus of the Palestinian Revolution undertook to rally the Palestinian masses to the cause

of liberation through armed struggle by launching guerrilla operations against the enemy within their sight.

June 5, 1967 engendered a new incentive for the revolutionary vanguards of Fateh to move into the newly-occupied West Bank in order to make history and turn a new leaf in the Palestinian struggle.

Fateh's decision to undertake such move was made on August 23, 1967. It was immediately implemented at the expense of heroic sacrifices which cost the Movement the loss, within three months, of 46 of its best men, including 29 officers. Those were an elite group because they were trained and raised during periods of oppression and severe hardships.

At the end of 1967, Fateh considered that the three-month phase had achieved its purpose and that the revolution's success now depended on its ability to move from "THE PHASE OF DEFEAT, SURRENDER AND RANCY TO THAT OF CREATING THE NECESSARY MILITARY SET-UP FOR LIBERATION."

Guerrilla war cannot achieve liberation but it is the cornerstone for building a popular liberation army. For this reason, Fateh decided to establish a secure base for its forces in the Aghwar (Jordan Valley). Fateh's three-month experience in late 1967 had proved that a secure base cannot be established on the West Bank. In fact, a secure base implies that the revolutionaries can work in it openly and without interruption. It implies that it should be located amidst the masses but in contact with the enemy so that its members can learn warfare by actually practicing it. It also implies that it can be defended. Fateh realized that occupied Palestine constituted the actual battlefield rather than the secure base. The difficulties encountered in setting up the secure base in the Aghwar were tremendous and were on the verge of leading to a confrontation between the Palestinian Revolution forces and the authorities in Jordan.

The solution to the crisis was suggested by the enemy himself in his attack on al-Karama on Thursday, March 11, 1968. The Palestinian commandos and the Jordan troops fought side by side to repel the enemy's onslaught on al-Karama town.

The decision to stay put at al-Karama braved guerrilla rules which say that one should retreat when the enemy advances. The Palestinian Revolution is not an exact replica of guerrilla war experiences. Fateh believes that it is not always necessary to retreat when the enemy advances; this was the case at al-Karama.

The battle of al-Karama enabled the Palestinian Revolution to set-up the safe base it was to have in the Aghwar. A secure base was needed to build a popular army without delay.

While people were busy celebrating the victory of al-Ka-

ramah, Fateh was pondering over the new problems confronting the revolution. In two weeks, the ranks of its freedom fighters grew from 722 to about 3,000 most of whom had khaki uniforms but lacked political awareness, military training, arms, medical supplies and other necessities.

After al-Karamah, the revolution embarked on the phase of founding the nucleus of the Palestinian popular army. Thousands of our men were sent for training abroad.

This extensive training of commandos limited our operations in occupied Palestine throughout the frustrating 1968 year. By early 1969, however, the Palestinian liberation struggle took new dimensions with such major operations as the Green Belt, Good Land, the Bayonets of Fateh, Deth Yassin, Farhan al-Sadi etc.

As well as the raids in Hail and the rocket attacks on Jerusalem.

Though we are proud of these operations, the most important accomplishment of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution has been as the raids in Hail and the rocket attacks on Jerusalem. This paved the way for the major operations.

In a year and a half, the Palestinian Revolution was able to establish the secure base in the Aghwar, to found the nucleus of the popular army, to secure the freedom of movement of the Palestinian masses in the Arab host countries, to foil plots against it, to prevent the liquidation of the Palestine national movement and to conduct enemy tactics.

Israeli Treatment Of Prisoners To Be Investigated

LONDON - Amnesty International said Tuesday it will send representatives to the Middle East to follow up further information and evidence of Israel's treatment of Arab prisoners.

The organization, founded in 1961 to campaign for the release of political prisoners anywhere in the world, said in its report on Israel treatment earlier this year "revealed serious evidence of systematic and ill treatment of prisoners in detention or under interrogation."

The international executive committee of Amnesty International considered that the replies from the Israeli authorities to the report submitted in April "leaves many questions unanswered."

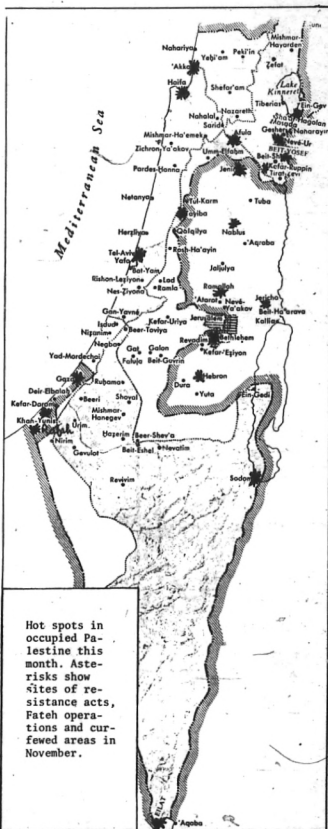
Editor's Note: The second in the series of three articles on "The Palestinian Revolution and the Jews" will appear in our next issue, No. 7. The first article in the series appeared in issue No. 5 of Nov. 20.

PASC's military spokesman said enemy casualties were very high but gave no numbers. He listed commando casualties at 11 killed and 4 injured, against 19 killed and 17 injured in October.

NOVEMBER 11: Fateh commandos foil attempt by Israeli patrol to cross Jordan River into the east bank on the Abu Seida area. Enemy confesses one casualty. Heavy mortar raid by Fateh on Yardenia settlement in the northern Jordan Valley.

valley. Another Pateh unit attacks the enemy's military headquarters in Mindassa in the central Jordan Valley.

NOVEMBER 30: An enemy foot patrol in Zor al-Ramlieh was completely wiped out by Fateh commandos. Fateh snipers kill four Israeli soldiers in Jordan Valley.



Hot spots in occupied Palestine this month. Asterisks show sites of resistance acts, Fateh operations and curfewed areas in November.



Zionists Boost Gaza Terror

GAZA — Zionist terror in the occupied Gaza Strip continues but it has only helped intensify the heroic resistance of its Palestinian civilians.

On Nov. 19, Israeli occupation troops shot dead two Palestinians for reportedly "breaking the curfew" imposed on both Rafah and Gaza on Nov. 15 following a hand grenade attack on the Military Governor Col. Benjamin Beitov. (James Peron however reported in the Herald Tribune on Nov. 20 that the areas are under curfew imposed as punishment because residents have refused to come forward with information about resistance incidents).

Shopkeepers "who are assumed to have seen" the men who threw grenades at Israeli patrols are prevented from doing business. This is in addition to the night curfew.

On Nov. 19, also, Palestinian resistance machine-gunned an Israeli vehicle at sundown wounding three Israelis. A curfew was slipped on Beit Hanun, near the scene of the ambush, and on neighboring Jabalya.

Earlier in the day a curfew was also put by the occupation army in Khan Younis following a grenade attack on occupation troops.

On Nov. 21, Israeli occupation troops set fire to the vegetable market in Gaza and blew up nine buildings near it.

Three days later, on Nov. 25, a 24-year-old girl student, Sal-

wa Mahmud was killed instantly by the Israelis with a bullet in the head. Two other civilians, including a 4-year old boy, were injured seriously. The Israeli soldiers opened fire on the three civilians when a grenade was hurled at a patrol near Gaza City high school. The man who hurled the grenade managed to escape.

On Dec. 1, a United Nations spokesman in occupied Jerusalem announced that the 20 families of UN observers will be moved from their homes in the Gaza Strip because of increased tension there.

The spokesman said most of the 20 families would move to Jerusalem.

He said the removal of the families was decided "out of consideration for their welfare."

On Dec. 5, Gaza was linked to Israel's electricity grid despite objections by Mayor R. Alami who described the act as political. Workshops and light industries which recently acquired

modern machinery were unable to operate because of lack of power.

French Party Breaks Ties With Mapham

PARIS — France's Socialist United Party (PSU) announced Dec. 1 it was breaking off contacts with the Israeli Mapham Party because of disagreements over Israeli government policy.

The party, whose Secretary General Michel Rocard defeated former French Premier Maurice Couve de Murville in a by-election last October, also recognized the representative character of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The announcement from the PSU political leadership said the party was going to make a study of the Palestine problem.

PIERRE, DAKOTA — South Dakota Governor Frank Farris told a press conference here Nov. 20 "I don't believe we will go on giving these people (of Israel) what they need to fight Arab aggression. They are a peaceful people, not a people to go looking for fights. They aren't going to use any arms we sell them to commit acts of aggression."

Israeli Statements...

Following is a self-explanatory series of recent statements by Zionist leaders of the settler-state of Israel:

MOISSE DAYAN

November 12: Only 140 houses have been blown up in occupied territory since April 1. Demolitions are not the only punishment. (Arabs) Counter-measures include NEIGHBORHOOD PUNISHMENT.

December 1: The term neighborhood punishment is an incorrect description of Israeli policy in occupied territories. I am a minister of defense not a minister of terrorism.

GOLDA MEIR

November 13: The inhabitants of houses demolished by the security forces had harbored and aided Fatah men who carried out acts of terrorism and murder.

November 23: Israel's policy had been and continued to be essentially a liberal one, almost without precedent in the history of military occupations.

ABRAHAM RABIN

November 27: We find ourselves ruling a community of 950,000 which does not wish to be ruled by us.

MEIR Y. RABIN

November 21: In Israel, life is peaceful and prosperous.

First Time In 21 Years

Jews Supply Arms To Palestinians

TEL AVIV — Two young Israeli Jews have been jailed on suspicion of "supplying arms" to Palestinian Arabs, the Israeli police said Nov. 21.

It was believed to be the first such case in 21 years. The Jews, both 20, and not further identified, were denied bail and remanded in jail for 15 days pending further investigation, the police added.

Police accused the men, residents of Kfar Sava, a small town just north of Tel Aviv, of selling three revolvers and one Karl Gustav sub-machinegun to the Palestinian Arabs in Tira village.

Six Palestinians also have been arrested in the case.

One newspaper said it was not unlikely the guns would have been used in "hostile action."

Police also detained the Jewish wife of an "Israeli Arab" (i.e., a Palestinian Arab under Zionist occupation since 1949) from Acre, one of nine picked up Nov. 20 on suspicion of setting off explosive charges in Haifa.

40 Palestinians Jailed Each Week

JERUSALEM — Israeli official sources confirmed Nov. 25 and for the first time that "approximately 2,000" Palestinian Arabs and "about 110 Israeli Arabs" (i.e., Palestinians under occupation since 1949) are now serving prison terms in Israeli jails.

The Israeli sources said the Palestinian prisoners include "a few dozen women."

"They said Israeli troops arrest an average of 20 to 40 Palestinians 'suspects' each week."

Dr. Julius Mader, of East Germany, has set the number of Palestinian prisoners in Zionist jails at 17,516 during the second half of the current year, mostly civilians arrested arbitrarily for suspicions to be in areas of espionage, or demonstrators, or strikers against occupation of their country. (For full report on Zionist prisons refer to "Fateh" issue No. 5 of Nov. 30).

recently. The woman was held as an accessory.

The arrested Palestinians were accused of membership in Fatah and were identified as follows:

1. Fawaz Ahmad Nimr, 33
2. Fatahlah Mahmud Sakka, 27
3. Abdallah Ibrahim Harboun, 35
4. Ramez Tewfik Khalifeh, 31
5. Mohammed Hussein Samra, 24
6. Youssef Hassan Abu-Kheir, 26

Palestine Seminar To Be Held In Kuwait

The General Union of Palestine Students (GUPS) is planning to hold its second International Panel Discussion on Palestine tentatively in Kuwait next March.

Arrangements for all aspects of the suggested panel are underway following preliminary contacts with the Kuwait Alumni Club.

This would be a follow up to the widely attended and successful First International Panel Discussion on Palestine which was held in Cairo March 30-April 6, 1965. A total of 108 countries were represented at the said panel through individual participants and international youth student and popular organizations. Among the prominent figures attending the first panel in 1965 were Ferdinand and Pierre Ploesti of France, Karama Mezon of India, Anthony Nutting of England and Late Mahdi Ben Barka of Morocco.

The panel discussion will focus on all aspects and dimensions of the Palestinian Revolution.

The sponsors would welcome suggestions from our readers particularly as to potential conference theme, address and brief background, and specific topics for discussion.

Institute for Palestine Studies' 1967 Year Book Offers Scientific Reference

The 1967 June war in retrospect, though two years late, has been tackled from all aspects by a number of leading Arab scholars in the latest production of the Institute for Palestine Studies — the 1967 Palestine Year Book.

Well-documented, detailed, and scientifically handled, the Palestine Year Book is the fourth production to be issued by the Institute, tackling the Palestine question in one year, together with Zionist and Israeli activities during 1967 — a year that will go into Arab and world history.

The references on the June war, or as the Israelis prefer to call it, the Six Day War, are innumerable, but they are all used by the 8 scholars who made the 1150-page book possible. These include press reports, Israeli publications issued in Hebrew, official and non-official Zionist references, and the various analytic productions that have been written on the subject.

Those who worked on the book include Dr. Burhan Dabbas, Antoine Butros, Fouad Jarrah, Geoffrey Janzen, Ahmad Khatib, Walid Abu Murad, George Deeb, and Elias Chantous. Dr. Najati acted as editor.

The 1967 Palestine Year Book is divided into six parts, the first of which deals with collective Arab action before the June war, including the Arab Summit Conferences, Palestinian popular and official action.

The second part of the book deals with Zionist activities all over the world while the third tackles political and social conditions in Israel. In the fourth part discusses every aspect of Israeli life and activity, including the building of the armed forces.

Well-documented maps reveal conditions on all fronts before the June war.

Palestine action on the international front is the subject of the fourth section while the

fifth section concentrates on the Palestine question at the United Nations, including the various resolutions adopted by the Security Council.

The last section of the book is dedicated to the economic conditions in Israel during the war.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the book reveals a fact that has been mentioned but never put in writing — that the June war was a one-sided battle in which the Arabs actually never participated.

The Six-Day War, according to the Palestine Year Book, was an outright accord between world Zionism and the third part discusses every aspect of Israeli life and activity — to a state of "expansion" and "armed forces."

The fact comes out that the Palestine Year Book for 1967 can act as a scientific reference for any researcher and anyone interested in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Neighborhood Punishment & World Press

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
(November 11)

Israel's occupation policy has entered a new and hardened phase - with increased travel restrictions and the stepped-up punitive action of blowing up homes...

PRAVDA
(November 7)

In what does the new Dayan doctrine differ from what the Fascists did in occupied territories?... Judging by everything, the present rulers of Israel have decided to follow the path of Hitlerites.

NEWSWEEK
(November 4)

And from this conviction has come an increasing tendency among the occupied Arabs to support the Palestinian commands and local terrorists. "There is no question, admitted Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, 'The Fateh has struck roots.' It was to counter this development that the Israelis decided to adopt a policy of environmental punishment and Dayan himself traveled the occupied territories to bring the stern new message to Arab leaders. Dayan's message went like this, 'You must understand that if terrorist activity goes on, life will become unbearable for you. Your alternatives are to fight the terrorists yourselves, to denounce them and ask our help -- or to suffer.' When terrorism is not continually but increased, Israeli occupation troops went into action..."

TIME
(November 21)

The houses of suspects have been destroyed, the owners exiled to Arab countries or imprisoned, under Dayan's new concept of neighborhood punishment.

THE TIMES
(November 18)

The occupation is now much harsher than it was a year ago. More people are being arrested, more houses are being demolished, the atmosphere in Gaza is even worse, and the atmosphere in Hebron is almost as bad. It is a measure of the terrorists' success. The guerrillas are getting more efficient. There is a process of natural selection as there was in Algeria and in occupied Europe. Inefficient guerrillas - the boasters, the carelessly - get caught or killed. The rest survive, or survive longer, and do more damage. No amount of Israeli retaliation will change them. On the contrary, it will stiffen their resistance, help their recruiting.

THE ECONOMIST
(November 22)

But since cover includes declining to give information about an actual or suspected terrorist to the Israeli security forces, it is not difficult, given the circumstances of military occupation, to find a whole street, or whole village, guilty. A senior Israeli officer confirmed this week that the policy, as described by Dayan, was to continue.

CEYLON OBSERVER
(November 20)

Right through history the civilized world has protested against the barbaric device of collective punishment. It is the inextinguishable reaction of one who finds that the spirit of the oppressed is unbreakable. Records of history show it has failed in its purpose.

Abu Ammar to Palestinian Youth:

"You Are The Generation Of Victory"

Abu Ammar told a group of Palestinian teenagers Nov 27: "We were the generation of defeat and you are the generation of victory."

The official Fateh spokesman and PLO chairman addressed the group at the opening of Fateh's first Youth Camp (age range 14 to 17).

Abu Ammar said Palestinians would not lay down their arms before liberating their homeland - the mistake of 1948 must never be repeated.

Abu Ammar told the young Palestinians: "It is you who are called upon not to repeat the mistake. We were the generation

of defeat and you are the generation of victory."

Abu Ammar revealed that 21 Palestinian men joined Fateh's first commando training camp in 1968. Of these, he said, 19 graduated. Today, Abu Ammar went on, "hundreds and thousands of our people are being trained. What has enabled us to achieve this? Determination, the determination of revolutionaries."

Abu Ammar emphasized "we do not want to create a group of fighters but a fighting population - men and women, young and old."



Palestinian Lawyer Describes Zionist Style Torture

JERUSALEM - The Israeli military occupation court in Ramallah heard how a Palestinian Arab lawyer, Bashir Khairi, was tortured by Israeli security officers with two other Palestinians on charge of co-operating with commando organizations.

Lawyer Khairi told the court that he was subjected to the most violent kinds of torture physically and mentally.

He said it may sound unbelievable, but it is true.

Khairi said on the night of Feb. 28 1968, he was contacted by telephone to report to the police immediately. At the police station he was kept waiting till 3:30 a.m. of the next morning when he was removed to a cell in the Ramallah prison for interrogation. Later he was taken to Jerusalem. There two Israeli officers slapped him on the face when he denied any knowledge of cooperation with the commandos. He afterwards was beaten with a whip for three hours during which his clothes were taken off and freezing water poured on him until he lost consciousness.

The next morning a third Israeli officer interrogated him, but again Khairi was beaten with a thick stick by the officer on his genitals, until he lost consciousness once more. Khairi told the court that under detention which continued for 42 days he learned of

the death of a Palestinian prisoner, Kassem Tamimi, as a result of torture and the transfer of another Palestinian detainee, Alhaj Mutaleb Abi-Rimleh, to a mental hospital. Khairi also told the court that the Israeli officer pressed on his neck to force him stretch out his tongue while urine was poured on.

Khairi said that he had certain marks on the wall of the 80x50 centimeter cell in which he was detained at the Sarafand Detention Camp pending his trial.

Khairi told the court that he had to sign a confession to save himself further torture but he denied any contact with commando organizations.

The trial was due to resume later this month.

SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN MOVEMENTS IN AMERICA THREATENS U.S. JEWS

CHICAGO - New Left support for the Palestine Liberation movements is causing great concern in Zionist circles.

Rabbi S. Jacobs, chairman of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said in Chicago Nov. 30 that Zionists "must expect a great increase of overt anti-Israel propaganda in America because the New Left, seeking a new cause to replace the issue of Vietnam, has found it in the identification with the Fateh movement."

He said the attraction of some Jews to a movement that cites Israel as illegitimate, "has already been tremendously damaged by the actions of Israel." Jacobs called for an "information (or awareness) program" to counteract the New Left stance on Israel.

Rabbi Jacobs said he has seen no increase in anti-Israel feeling but that American public opinion on "the Middle East" is changing.

He said "fears" were dismissed as irrelevant by a member of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) who said:

"We're not for the extermination of Jews or that kind of thing - we're anti-oppressors. We oppose Israeli expansion because it oppresses the Arab people and gives U.S. imperialism a base in the Middle East."



UN Body Raps Israeli Collective Punishment

UNITED NATIONS - The U.N. Social Committee Nov. 20 adopted an urgent resolution condemning Israeli's practices of collective and area punishment in occupied Palestine.

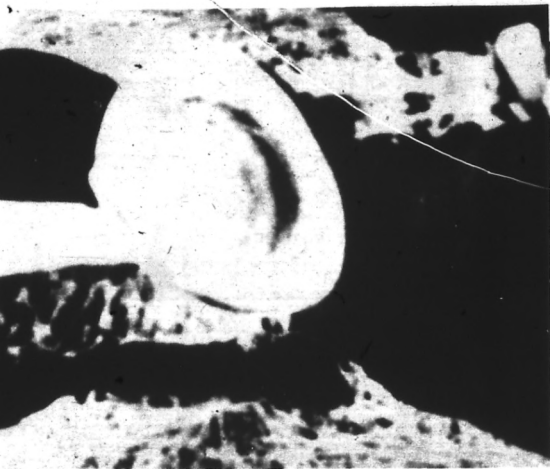
The resolution, which is expected to receive endorsement from the General Assembly later this month, was adopted by 11 votes, with 11 against and 50 abstentions.

Liberia, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Israel, Bolivia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda, Swaziland and Uruguay opposed the resolution which "condemns such policies and practices as collective and area punishment, the destruction of homes and the deportation of the inhabitants of the Israeli occupied territories."

Palestine

Vietnam





FATEH

Palestine in Prospect

(EDITOR'S NOTE: One might ask: why did the Zionist Jews resort to terrorist tactics to drive the Palestinians from their homes and, where this failed, to their physical and forcible expulsion? The answer to be found in the underlying Zionist racist objective of creating Palestine a state which would be racially, religiously and exclusively Jewish. Professor Maxime Rodinson has observed that the Jewish character of the state is 'the prime aim and postulate of Zionist ideology'. In other words, the Zionists wanted to convert Palestine into a state for the Jews and no one else but the Jews. The realization of this objective necessitated the displacement of the

original inhabitants and their dispossession of their lands. The racial and religious exclusiveness of the Jewish state as envisaged in the Zionist program had long been emphasized by Zionist leaders. The British Statement of Policy of 1922 referred to unauthorized statements which had been made to the effect that the purpose of the Balfour Declaration was to create a wholly Jewish Palestine and that Palestine was to become as Jewish as England is English. Following is the full text of this British statement of Policy (British Command Paper No. 1700) also known as The "White Paper" of June, 1922 or as the Churchill Memorandum.)

lish people to live with the Arab people on terms of unity and mutual respect, and together with them to make the common home into a flourishing community, the upbuilding of which must be the joint concern of peoples and undisturbed national development."

It is also necessary to point out that the Zionist Commission in Palestine, now termed the Jewish Agency, has been established in Palestine. It does not have any share in the general administration of the country. Nor does the special position assigned to the Zionist Organization in Article 24 of the Mandate for Palestine imply any such functions. This special position recognizes that the Jewish Agency taken in Palestine affecting the Jewish population, and contemplates that the Organization may assist in the general development of the country, but does not entitle it to share in any degree.

Further, it is contemplated that the status of all citizens of Palestine is to be the same. The law shall be Palestinian, and it has never been intended that they or any section of them, should possess any other juridical status.

So far as the Jewish population of Palestine are concerned, it appears that some among them are apprehensive that His Majesty's Government may depart from the policy embodied in the Declaration of 1917. It is necessary, therefore, to make more to affirm that these fears are unfounded, and that the Declaration, re-affirmed by the Conference of the Principal Allied Powers at San Remo and again in the Treaty of Sevres, is not susceptible of change.

During the last two or three generations the Jews have re-created in Palestine a community, now numbering 80,000, of whom about one-fourth are farmers or workers upon the land. This community has its own political organs; an elected assembly for the direction of its domestic concerns; elected councils in the towns; and an organization for the control of its schools. It has its elected Chief Rabbi and Rabbinical Council for the direction of its religious affairs. Its business is conducted in Hebrew as a vernacular language, and a Hebrew press serves its needs. It has its distinctive intellectual life and displays considerable economic activity. This community, then, is not a foreign country population, its political, religious and social organization, its own language, its own customs, its own life has in fact a "national" character-

istics. WHEN IT IS ASKED WHAT IS MEANT BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME IN PALESTINE, IT MAY BE ANSWERED THAT IT IS NOT THE IMPOSITION OF A JEWISH NATIONALITY UPON THE INHABITANTS OF PALESTINE AS A WHOLE, BUT THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXISTING JEWISH COMMUNITY, with the assistance of Jews in other parts of the world, in order that it may become a centre in which the Jewish people as a whole may take, on grounds of religion and race, an interest and pride. But in order that this community should have the best prospect of free development and provide a full opportunity for the Jewish people to display its activities, it is essential that it should know that it is in Palestine as of right and not as an endowment. That is the reason why it is necessary that the existence of a Jewish National Home in Palestine should be internationally guaranteed, and that it should be formally recognised to rest upon an historic basis.

This, then, is the interpretation which His Majesty's Government place upon the Declaration of 1917, and, so understood, the Secretary of State is of opinion that it does not contain or imply anything which need cause any alarm to the Arab population of Palestine or to anybody else.

For the fulfilment of this policy it is necessary that the Jewish population in Palestine should be able to increase its numbers by immigration. This immigration should be so great in volume as to exceed whatever may be the economic capacity of the country at the time. Such new arrivals are essential to ensure that the immigrants should not be a burden upon the people of Palestine as a whole, and that they should not deprive any section of the present population of their employment. Hitherto the immigration has fulfilled these conditions. The number of immigrants since the British occupation has been about 25,000.

It is necessary also to ensure that persons who are politically undesirable are excluded from Palestine, and every precaution has been and will be taken by the Administration to that end.

It is intended that a special committee should be established in Palestine, consisting entirely of members of the new Legislative Council elected by the people, to co-operate with the Administration upon matters relating to the regulation of immigration. Should any difference of opinion arise between this committee and the Administration, the matter will be referred to His Majesty's Government, who will give it special consideration. In addition, under Article 21 of the draft Palestine Order in Council, any religious community or considerable section of the population of Palestine will have a general right to appeal, through the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State, to the League of Nations on any matter in which they may consider that the terms of the Mandate are not being fulfilled by the Government of Palestine.

With reference to the Constitution which it is now intended to establish in Palestine, the draft of which has already been published, it is desirable to make certain points clear. In the first place, it is not the case,

as has been represented by the Arab delegation, that during the war His Majesty's Government gave an undertaking that an independent national government should be at once established in Palestine. This representation mainly rests upon a letter dated the 24th October, 1915, from Sir Henry McMahon, then His Majesty's High Commissioner in Egypt, to the Sherif of Mecca, now King Hussein of the Kingdom of the Hejaz. That letter is quoted as conveying the promise to the Sherif of Mecca to recognise and support the independence of the Arabs within the territories proposed by him. But this promise was given subject to a reservation made in the same letter, which excluded from its scope, among other territories, the portions of Syria lying to the west of the district of Damascus. This reservation has always been regarded by His Majesty's Government as covering the vilayet of Beirut and the independent Sanjak of Jerusalem. The whole of Palestine west of the Jordan was then excluded from Sir H. McMahon's pledge.

Nevertheless, it is the intention of His Majesty's Government to foster the establishment of a full measure of self-government in Palestine. But they are of opinion that, in the special circumstances of that country, this should be accomplished by gradual stages and not suddenly. The first step to be taken when, on the institution of a civil Administration, the nominated 'Advisory' Council, which now exists, was established. It was stated at the time by the High Commissioner that this was the first step in development of self-governing institutions, and it is now proposed to take a second step by the establishment of a Legislative Council containing a large proportion of members elected on a wide franchise. It was proposed in the published draft that three of the members of this Council should be non-official persons nominated by the High Commissioner, but representations having been made in opposition to this provision, based on cogent considerations, the Secretary of State is prepared to omit it. The Legislative Council would then consist of the High Commissioner as President and twelve

elected and ten official members. The Secretary of State is of opinion that before a further measure of self-government is extended to Palestine and the Assembly placed in control over the Executive, it is essential that a considerable time to elapse. During this period the institutions of the country will have become well established, its financial condition will be based on firm foundations, and the Palestinian officials will have been enabled to gain experience of sound methods of government. After a few years the situation will be again reviewed, and if the experience of the working of the constitution now to be established so warranted, a larger share of authority would then be extended to the elected representatives of the people.

The Secretary of State would point out that already the present Administration has transferred to a Supreme Council elected by the Moslem community of Palestine the entire control of Moslem religious endowments (Wakfs), and of the Moslem religious courts. To this Council the Administration has also voluntarily restored the considerable revenues derived from ancient endowments which had been sequestrated by the Turkish Government. The Education Department is also advised by a committee representative of all sections of the population, and the Department of Commerce and Industry has the benefit of the cooperation of the Chambers of Commerce which have been established in the principal centres. It is the intention of the Administration to associate in an increased degree similar representative committees with the various Departments of the Government.

The Secretary of State believes that a policy upon these lines coupled with the maintenance of the fullest religious liberty in Palestine and with scrupulous regard for the rights of each community with reference to its Holy Places, cannot but commend itself to the various sections of the population, and that upon this basis may be built up that spirit of cooperation upon which the future progress and prosperity of the Holy Land must largely depend.

PALESTINE

Letter To Nixon

Palestine Was Never A Desert

Allegations on "Palestine as a desert" made by Israeli premier Mrs. Golda Meir during her September visit to Washington were refuted by Palestinian women under the Israeli occupation.

In a message to President

Nixon sent by the U.S. Consul General in Tel. Jerusalem the women's message which was received in Jordan Nov. 18 read as follows:

To Mr. Nixon, President of the United States of America,

Dear Sir:

We do not aspire to have the honor of addressing the president of the United States of America at a state dinner reception; nevertheless we do hope that the same person who showed all that concern to Mrs. Golda Meir would do the like to us, Palestinian women, whose untold problem causes unhappiness in the Middle East.

In her speech, Mrs. Meir raised the question of the debt Israel and the whole world owe to the six million Jews who went to gas chambers in Europe — center of culture. The whole world seemed to compete in purging itself of a great sin.

The question was, people of Palestine, want to raise in this connection is: "At whose expense?" One cannot comprehend how the conscience of the world can allow for such a high price of injustice. One and a half million Arab Palestinians, a whole people, were so cruelly uprooted from this country in 1948. The same tragedy was repeated in 1967 with another half of the remnants of this miserably destroyed nation.

Mrs. Meir talks so proudly of the faith and hope that her people held for two thousand years. One wonders why such faith and hope is denied to a people whose memory of their homes and lands is but twenty years of age. Mrs. Meir should know and the whole world should know that Palestinians have nowhere to go to except Palestine. Therefore, they have chosen to fight and fight it out and win. They have no alternative, for when the Deobars of the Twentieth century talks of peace, she thinks of the peace that guarantees all the securities to the "state of Israel" — supposedly a mere home to the scattered persecuted Jews of a criminal world — and overlooks

the rights of the other people who lived in Palestine for thousands of years. Such a petty peace can never stand at the test of time.

Mrs. Meir commits a gross fallacy when she pictures Palestine as a DESERT where nothing has bloomed for hundreds and hundreds of years. Our humble answer, which contradicts her statement, lies in the following quotation that comes from the diary of Sir Moses Montefiore, a Jew and a notorious pioneer in the Zionist movement, under the heading "Said, May 24th, 1939": "There are groves of live-trees I should think more than five hundred years old, vineyards, much pasture, plenty of wells; also fig trees, walnuts, almonds, mulberries, etc., and rich fields of wheat, barley and lentils; in fact it is a land that would produce almost everything in abundance, with very little difficulty laid down."

We hope this is a convincing evidence of the greenness of Palestine, and that there will be any chance to "make the desert bloom."

Ironically, though Palestinians had the opportunity to visit their usurped homes, groves and lands after the June 1967 conflict, and they saw with their own eyes what destruction and havoc has been created over the past twenty years. We quote here what an American author has to say about this:

"The Israeli side of Jerusalem has many things to boast of, and the Ministry of Tourism tries to see that no visitor misses them: The Knesset... I saw most of these, and I saw things which the Ministry of Tourism would just assume I had not

seen: Hill-sides which for centuries had been cultivated and terraced by Arabs, turned into a desert since 1948. The Israelis had neither knowledge nor inclination to preserve the olive trees and vineyards, and I saw hundreds of acres of crumbling terraces, dried vines, dried trees. It would be impossible to cultivate these terraces by machine, and in modern Israel, economically unound to cultivate them in ancient way.

"And so the ironies piled up. The Arabs, who belonged to the land and loved as only peasants can love it, were driven from it, and Israel pleads not for them grants to fill their places. Israel, to prove that the land belongs to him who makes the most out of it, introduced modern agricultural methods and in certain places has made the 'desert blossom.' Many of the show places of Israel, the Golan Heights and the plain Sharon, for example — were fertile to begin with. They had been cultivated for centuries by Arabs before Israel brought in tractors. Pa-

lestinian's most productive areas are now a part of Israel."

"Tourists cannot help seeing the difference. This is what Israel has done," they are told, "And there you see what the Arabs did." It is not pointed out that Jaffa had oranges grown by Arabs, or that every olive tree and vineyard was originally Arab-owned. Israel has only redecorated what we Arabs built. I heard one woman remark bitterly."

Mr. President
This is our tragic story. We feel so bitter that the whole world blinks its eyes in order not to see the monotony of the injustice done to us, people of Palestine. It is high time for the conscience of the world to wake up and do something to bring the joy and the songs to the hearts of our miserable children. They also have the right to live. At the same time they will be sharing the heavy mothers the dread of losing their children on the battlefield.

GAZA — Four Palestinians in Gaza were given terms of 5 to 20 years jail Nov. 28 by a Zionist military court in this occupied city "for acts of resistance last year."

Mohammad Mustafa, 26, and Diah Abdul-Kheir, 26, received 20 years each on mine laying charges. Mahmoud Selman Abu Shitri, 45, received seven years, and Mohammed Ghazbi, five years, for helping set up weapons.

Earlier on Nov. 24, another Zionist court in Jerusalem sentenced a Palestinian town leader to nine months for reportedly aiding the accused killer of a collaborator.

The court was told Sheikh Mohammed Jothab Tabet of occupied Shokha, near Ramallah, had the gun used to kill Tayseer Lousti last August. Accused of killing Tayseer Lousti is Abdullah Omran.

Sheikh Tabet's house was blown up by Israeli troops a month ago after his arrest. Four other houses of Palestinian Arabs in the village of Beit Fajjar, near Bethlehem, were also blown up during the week by Zionist occupation troops following the arrest of their owners.

Palestinian Forced To March 150 Km.

AMMAN — A Palestinian student said Nov. 23 that the Israelis dumped him in the Negev desert and told him to walk to Jordan after they failed in an attempt to deport him in a normal way.

The student, Osama Mustafa Awami, told a press conference that he and three others walked aimlessly for about 150 kilometers (about 90 miles), sometimes through minefields, before they reached Jordanian territory exhausted and hungry.

He said he was among 13 Palestinians and their families who were turned back by the Jordanians when the Israeli occupation authorities tried to expel them from occupied territory on Nov. 18.

The 20-year-old student from Hebron said he and his three fellows were then taken to Jericho prison and on to a desert region north of the Israeli port of Tel Aviv, where they were left on Nov. 18.

"We were told we would be shot if we turned our heads,"

The student, who arrived in Amman with the three other deportees Saturday, Nov. 23, said he had been arrested three times before and had been held and tortured for the last six months on charges of belonging to Fatah and inciting students to strike at Israeli authorities.

Jordanian Shepherds Kidnapped & Killed By Israel

UNITED NATIONS — Jordan accused Israel Nov. 28 of the murder of four Jordanian shepherds and the kidnapping of a fifth on Nov. 24.

In a letter to the Security Council president, Ambassador Mohammed Farra of Jordan said Israel had committed new acts of piracy and premeditated murder against innocent Jordanian citizens.

The letter said an Israeli patrol attacked six Jordanian shepherds, killing four of them and kidnapping a fifth. The sixth shepherd escaped. Ambassador Farra said this was the second such criminal act in a week.

Israeli Border Guard Killed In Street Fight

JERUSALEM — An Israeli occupation guard and two Palestinian Arabs died Nov. 24 in a gun battle in the occupied town of Jenin.

Moshe Dayan visited the area after the brief but costly encounter.

Israeli "border guards" raided the town to arrest Palestinians on charges of acts of resistance. But when they approached one house, they were met by snipers' arms. One killed an Israeli guard and wounded another. The Israeli occupation authorities used grenades to storm the house. An arms store was reportedly found in the house.

Part of the town was put under curfew, and house-to-house searches were then made. Zionist occupation authorities used the incident to make more than a hundred Palestinian arrests in the Jenin area alone.

Palestinian Red Crescent Introduced

Yasser Arafat official spokesman said the chairman of Palestine Liberation Organization introduced in a booklet the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) as an official organization of PLO.

The society established in 1968 has branches in Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Republic, Syria, Libya, Iraq, Algeria, Qatar and Abu Dhabi.

Arafat said the PRCS is authorized to offer first aid, first aid and medical and humanitarian assistance to Palestinian Arabs in occupied areas.

The society will conduct its duties in accordance with the Geneva Convention and the declaration of the Human Rights, Arafat said.

He delegated Dr. Mahmoud Hijazi, president of the society, to sign the agreements of the International Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

According to Hijazi, the so-

ciety has formed four committees to pursue its objectives, these are: the Executive Committee, responsible for the organization and coordination of all activities; the Medical Committee, responsible for providing medical and first-aid services; the Social Affairs Committee, responsible for providing the conditions of refugees and displaced persons, opening rehabilitation centers and extending all possible assistance to the families of the wounded and prisoners; the Information Committee.

Medical centers are already providing free medical care to about 30,000 persons each month.

Dr. Hijazi stated that the PRCS has taken part as an observer in the regional conference of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun societies in the Middle East and North Africa held in Kuwait in January 1969, and attended as an active member

the conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies held in Cairo in May 1969.

The PRCS has been asked to fulfill an urgent humanitarian aid to the gap for further help urgently for among Pa-

lestinian concentrations. It is also cooperating with other humanitarian associations to work against the inhuman treatment being exercised by the Israeli authorities in occupied territory.



TEL AVIV — Informal sources revealed Dec. 1 that Israel sustained 97 casualties during the month of November alone.

The sources listed Israeli casualties on all fronts and inside occupied territory as follows: 22 soldiers and one civilian killed and 83 soldiers and 11 civilians wounded.

ISRAEL TO CENSOR PALESTINIAN MAIL

JERUSALEM — Mail and other written material passing into occupied territory is to be brought under Israeli military censorship, an occupation army spokesman said here Nov. 27.

The spokesman said the mail might be "exploited to pass military information abroad or bring in orders to 'sabotage' groups."

Life in Gaza

IN GAZA this week, the market price for grenade throwers—men not machines—is a few Israeli pounds, or a day's more days than not. The Israeli troops pick them up, and the unemployed, who are still stuffed in their shirt fronts. The grenade boys usually harm more of their compatriots than Israelis. They have established a strong claim to bring the most inefficient—as well as the cheapest—hired guns of modern times.

Even so, their maladroitness manoeuvres have achieved some success, perhaps even their masters' aim. In this they have been abetted by Major-General Moshe Dayan. His policy of "collective punishment," or let us call it reprisal, for what he means, has driven the uncommitted among the Arabs in Israel—and they did once exist—into the arms of the 100 per cent, all-or-nothing hater. Between them they have turned this place, which at best was a uniformly armed part of the Middle East, into a city as menacing and as terrified as Saigon after the Tet offensive.

Here, indifferent Israeli conscripts were shooting at heads moving in the windows in the street of Omar El Mukhtar, when there was a bang, groups of tiny uniformed schoolgirls scurried past the town hall like so many terrified black rabbits. Private houses were destroyed to encourage the others, and the biggest high school was closed to make an army camp. Effectively, this Arab town of more than 60,000 was under siege.

The terrorists, by means of their 12s. 6d. hired boys, have evidently achieved their aim—to alienate the population and their occupiers. There are consequently Israeli officers there who adduce all Gaza's ills to terrorism. They talk of "last summer" with a certain lyricism. They say next summer, the Dayan plan has eliminated the terrorists, could be as happy.

BUT was last summer so good? One observer, and he was there, more terrorism was making young soldiers trigger-happy, found conditions unacceptable even then. It is reasonable to ask whether what is happening now is a product of what was done then.

He is an observer worth listening to because apart from anything else, he is an Israeli, by education and by temperament even a Zionist. This is what he found.

The first thing was hunger. During his period of reserve duty on the Gaza Strip, he described later in a period of horror three weeks of my life if he was approached by Arab boys, or even waste food which the Israeli army dumps in plastic bags.

During his service he visited two hospitals where parents, usually mothers, were according to the staff, in the habit of stealing food from the messes and giving it to their sick children.

This was one of his milder allegations, and one of the nearest to confirm. Several neutral health workers in the area said that they had often seen this happen, and had, as long as they were assured their names would not be linked to it, said they had come to find it quite normal.

Moshe Dayan, Israel's famous Defence Minister, said himself last spring in a recorded interview that hunger conditions in some parts of the Gaza Strip were unacceptable, and had to Israel prestige in the world. But there is no source, apart from this unofficial one, for the method which occupying forces

ON OCTOBER 28, The London Times published an article by its foreign editor, E.C. Hodgkin, which was headlined: "Grim reports of repression from Israel-occupied lands." (which we reprinted in our November 10 issue) It described how Palestinians in the Israeli occupied territory were "being persecuted into a new diaspora by the armies and people of Israel." This article caused an international furor. Many instances of repression reported in it have been strenuously denied by the Israeli authorities.

The editorial operations of the Sunday Times are quite independent of those of the Times. And it so happens that more than a week before The Times' article appeared, the Sunday Times had been entirely separately approached by an Israeli citizen with an account of conditions in one of the Israel-administered territories—the Gaza Strip. The account comes from a long and detailed statement which he gave the Sunday Times and to which he swore on oath.

The reporter who was chosen to check the informant's statement was DAVID LEITCH, "he has been visiting Israel, for which He has a deep sympathy and affection," at intervals since 1963. Now here is his report, which we reprint from the Sunday Times of Nov. 23.



Curfew time on the Gaza Strip . . . and Arabs are rounded up for searching

are reported to have used last summer against the occupied.

He saw, and heard from fellow soldiers, how the authorities treated Gaza Arabs, month after month after Israeli officials began to talk about "environmental, or neighbourhood punishment."

The first approach involved arbitrary curfews of the kind recently used as a reprisal against terrorism, in the village of Beit Sahor, near Bethlehem, among other places. The inhabitants are forbidden to leave their homes for almost the whole 24 hours; they can go out to get food and water, perhaps two hours a day. As Arab homes in Gaza are usually tiny, have no sanitation or running water, and are sometimes shared with livestock, this is a severe punishment.

This witness says that such curfews were imposed against small villages at random, even when there had been no acts of terrorism, much less when there were terrorist incidents in the area. He claims the reaction of his people was to "go underground."

In the tougher cases, the same curfew rules applied, but only the women were kept indoors. The men were driven into the desert, to be divided according to age into two groups. They were then divided according to their haunches in the sun under guard for several hours — he says for as long as eight hours at a time.

There were also harsher measures, which the witness says were common knowledge among soldiers serving in the Strip this summer, but which he never witnessed himself. He

says that during a coffee party in his tent (the Israeli army is dry) half a dozen soldiers told him the best way to combat terrorism was to bind suspects tightly with electric wire on arms and legs, and leave them in the sun.

These were not young soldiers telling tall stories, he says, but mature reservists chatting unemotionally, without even much interest, (which was the single thing that made the deepest impression on him). He also says they reported beating Arab men on the shins with the butts of automatic weapons, some times until their legs were broken.

How accurate are these accounts? And do the events they describe result from official policy? The first question is desperately hard to answer. Many Arabs around Gaza have told me similar stories in the last weeks, but even President Aser could not call them even witnesses. They were vague on details. They were carried by their own rhetoric (even filtered through an interpreter) and obviously had no interest in saying which profession—gave a similar account. And this was, also, largely confirmed in the course of a series of extremely guarded conversations with international workers in the area, most of whom are concerned, above all, to avoid offending the occupying authorities.

Moreover they are frankly terrified that any statement of theirs will be used to prevent them from continuing all kinds of essential services.

All of these witnesses, some of whom have spoken at first hand, and others only through hearsay, must be treated with some reserve. But the Israeli soldier, I believe, is in a different category.

He is not only a Jew; he is a devoted one. He has served in the Israeli army during two wars. He is a highly educated man, and indeed one of some distinction in his profession. He knows people, Israelis like himself, who have told me very similar stories. Finally, this witness, who, it should be said, is unlike the majority of dissenters in Tel Aviv in that he is anti-Communist, has gone so far as to swear a detailed statement which is in the possession of the Sunday Times.

The evidence is by no means conclusive. It does, at the very least, establish a prime focus case for some kind of independent enquiry. And it is not the only evidence.

The next set of statements, which deal with Arab detention in Israel, fall into much the same category. They have been obtained from both Arab and Israeli lawyers, and are, I believe, more reliable statements and court transcripts. I have selected four examples which are, in various ways, typical.

It would be possible, given time, to add about 40 more. But the following are in themselves sufficient to warrant attention. These examples all involve what amounts to torture.

For historical reasons which do not require emphasis this is subject which is highly sensitive in Israel. It is hard to believe that a government based on all kinds of human ideas is prepared to make these

methods an instrument of policy. Are the allegations true or not? Again, it seems that there is an independent group could decide. But, again, the evidence available is enough in itself to cause great concern.

The evidence of Lutfieh El Houari

THE FIRST statement comes from a woman and, it should be said, a damned tough one. She is called Lutfieh El Houari, she is 25, and she was arrested in August this year in Ramallah. The charges against her were numerous: being a member of an unlawful organisation and attempted murder were the most serious.

According to her prosecutors, arrested in Ramallah, she has been contradicted with any conviction, on June 1968—the second anniversary of the outbreak of the Six-Day War—she and four girlfriends despatched a bottle of poisoned whisky to a group of Arab students, whom they regarded as collaborators.

She confessed to most of the charges. She was sentenced, on November 4 before a military court in Ramallah, her lawyer claimed, to 15 years. She had been extracted through torture and threats. This is what she says happened:

"She was taken to Beit Shemesh and interrogated for 15 days. During this period she was kept in solitary confinement, with both wrists and feet handcuffed. She says her interrogators threatened her with the same punishment that she had received a year earlier while under administrative arrest."

Then, she says, she was put in the same cell as a group of Jewish prostitutes mostly from the West Bank. They were guarded by the guards. She claims during her solitary confinement she was prevented from using the lavatory, which was particularly painful for her as she was convalescing from an operation for appendicitis at the time of her arrest.

She also claims that police or soldiers (she is not sure which) threatened that her house would be blown up if she did not confess. Eventually she did, but the house was blown up anyway. Miss Houari has given many more details of her alleged ill-treatment to her lawyer, who has made an official report, so far without response.

The evidence of Ichak Ali El Marari

ICHAK ALI EL MARARI was arrested in Ramallah, near Jerusalem. After two months of interrogation, during which he had claimed he had no access either to his wife or his lawyer, he was sentenced to 15 years as a member of an illegal organisation. Interestingly, though he is still in prison, the charges against him were dropped on June 1969.

He says, and I have seen his statement, that he had been so badly treated during the interrogation period, that the marks would have been visible in his skin.

His story, which is similar to those of others, is far from being beaten on the hands with a strap, and of being denied access to his wife or lawyer, until he had made a full confession.

In his statement, which his lawyer sent on September 1969, he says he was "tortured without reaction" — to Israel's Attorney General, the Minister of Justice, and the Minister responsible for police, who he says he had seen (he is called Marcus) who directed the interrogation.

On the 15th of September, again to no effect, requested it.

(Continued on page 11)



Palestinian Commando To His Gaolers:

"I Came To Win Back My Homeland"

TEL AVIV — "I came to fight as to win back my homeland, Palestine."

This is what 23 year old Ghannu Mohammed El-Haj Nizar Abdallah told the Israeli military judge in occupied Nabliu who sentenced him Dec. 2 to life imprisonment.

The Zionist prosecutor described Abdallah as a Fatch commando who had served at al-Karama and trained in China. The prosecutor did not conceal the fact that the man was detained for four months before being brought to trial.

When the military judge asked him if he pleaded guilty or not, Abdallah told the court, "It is true that I infiltrated, I came to fight so as to win back my homeland — Palestine."

Other members of his unit were recently sentenced to life imprisonment at a separate hearing.

In another Zionist trial at occupied Nabliu five young persons pleaded not guilty to shooting dead three collaborators.

The five also denied throwing hand grenades in Nabliu.

Their trial will continue "early next year."

Earlier two Palestinians had been arrested on suspicion of having laid explosives near a bus stop in Tel Aviv earlier this year.

Abdul Karim Sibri, Abu Sheilat, 25, and his brother Ibrahim, 27, were reportedly arrested on charges of having laid an explosive charge near the stop on July 23 and another on a Tel Aviv beach in August.

On Dec. 3, three other Palestinians were given life sentences by Zionist military court for commando activities in the Jerusalem area earlier this year.

The prosecutor told Lyda military court Dec. 1 that the

three men — Ahmad Rasuf Tawab, Mahmoud Hassan Amira and Yusuf Ahmad Muhsin Amira — had thrown grenades, set fire to stores and blew up railway lines.

Two other members of the group — Mohamed Abdallah Az-jir and Hamdi Ali Mahirich — were killed, on the same charges, for 25 and 18 years respectively.

At Ramallah three other Palestinians were sentenced by a military court to terms of 20 to 25 years imprisonment on charges of armed infiltration, membership of an outlawed organization and illegal detention of weapons.

Mahmoud Basha, 21, and Maswoud David Sa'ada Humeida, 23. The prosecutor told the court that the accused had set up commando bases in the Jerusalem area.

Four Palestinians in Gaza were also given terms of 10 to 20 years jail Nov. 26 by a Zionist military court in the occupied city "for acts of resistance last year."

Maharab Mustafa Abd, 28, and Diab Abdul-Kheir, 26, received 20 years each on mine laying charges. Mahmoud Soliman Abu Shiri, 45, received seven years, and Mohammed Charrid, five years, for helping set up weapon caches.

Earlier on Nov. 24, another Zionist court in Jerusalem sentenced a Palestinian town leader to nine months for reportedly aiding the accused killer of a collaborator.

The court was told Sheikh Mohammed Jodeh Thabet of occupied Shabba, near Ramallah, hid the gun used to kill Tayseer Louzi last August. Accused of killing Tayseer Louzi is Abdallah Omran.

Sheikh Thabet's house was blown up by Israeli troops a

month ago after his arrest. Four other houses of Palestinian Arabs in the village of Beit Fajjar, near Bethlehem, were also blown up during the week by Zionist occupation troops following the arrest of their owners.

independent medical examination and access to the prisoner's medical files. These are probably easily available because, after Mr. Intergation, Mr. Marari was treated in the prison hospital at Ramleh.

He says his most serious injury was a head wound, and he also complains of defects in vision as a result of his treatment during interrogation, and recurring headaches.

His case is particularly interesting because unlike most detainees who allege torture, there seems to be no convincing evidence, or indeed evidence of any kind, that he was involved in terrorist activities.

He admits a connection with a nationalist front organization, but says he was only concerned with aiding the families of people who had been arrested. He may, of course, be lying, but unless there are statements suggesting the contrary, to which I have not had access, there appears to be no hard evidence against him. This does not mean under the system of administrative imprisonment which is now widely used that there is anything to prevent his being held in prison for an indefinite period.

The evidence of Abdullah Yusuf Odian

SIMILARITIES can be found in the story of Mr. Abdullah Yusuf Odian. The allegations of torture methods are much the same, though he names three different interrogators.

Mr. Odian is, I understand, a Communist. He is a prisoner, though this is not an offence in Israel, which has two Communist parties, with parliamentary representation. By a nice international irony, he has already served a long period in a Jordanian prison for being a Communist.

He says the Israelis acquired his Jordanian files when they occupied the West Bank, and picked him up as a result. He also says that Israeli interrogators assured him they would do a much better—which in this seditious mood means brutal—job than their counterparts in the Hashemite kingdom. Through his lawyer, on Septem-

US-Israeli Dual Citizenship Helps Immigration To Israel

TEL AVIV — Zionist immigration officials said here Nov. 26 that the recent U.S. decision granting dual American-Israeli citizenship have done away with serious obstacles to immigration of U.S. Jews to Israel, even though they stirred up fierce Palestinian and Arab reaction.

The head of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI) said many potential U.S. immigrants who had hesitated to settle in Israel for fear of losing U.S. citizenship, could now immigrate to the Zionist settler-state of Israel.

"American settlers can now participate in all phases of Israeli life, social, political, business and defense, without endangering their American citizen rights," Eli Klein, president of AACI, told a news conference.

Washington's new policy of allowing American citizens to be conscripted in the Israeli army while retaining U.S. nationality under a new interpretation of dual citizenship took effect Oct. 14 through the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The State Department in turn acknowledged the "new interpretation" on Oct. 17 through its official spokesman, Robert J. McCloskey.

McCloskey admitted most of

the Americans serving in Israel had dual Israeli-American citizenship and were conscripted into military service in Israel.

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv made the Oct. 14 disclosure in response to a question by a United Press International reporter concerning an article in the Tel Aviv newspaper, Davar, dealing with dual citizenship. According to the "new interpretation," the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv said "Americans could now become citizens of Israel and serve in the Israel Defense Forces without losing their U.S. citizenship. Of course, fighting against the United States would lose a man his citizenship, but that hardly applies here (in Israel)."

The State Department admitted Oct. 17 that "increasing numbers" have been called up to reserve units of the Israel Defense Forces. American and Israeli nationals for Israeli military service. It added, however, that "increasing numbers" said it "did not encourage" U.S. citizens to join the Zionist army.

The U.S. AACI official Jerome C. Bachrach brushed aside the State Department's statement that "increasing numbers" of U.S. citizens now to serve on foreign armies. He termed this "a malaise of American diplomacy only."

Eyewitness (Cont'd)

ber 11 of this year, he submitted various allegations of mistreatment to the relevant authorities. By the middle of November, there had been no response.

The evidence of Abdel Rahim Gaber

A FULLY PAID-UP 100 per cent terrorist, Abdel Rahim Gaber made similar allegations. He is serving a life sentence for terrorist activities, including planting a bomb at a bus station in Tel Aviv in 1966. Presumably he knew the risk, as he was prepared to pay a price.

He claims to have served a longer period of solitary confinement than most of the other prisoners whose files I have seen.

But, if one can believe the statements of prisoners, there is little distinction between the treatment of an avowed terrorist, and a suspect. A lawyer, an Israeli who handles cases of prisoners, has my experience suggests 80 per cent of the prisoners are tortured during interrogation if what they say is true.

BUT IS IT? Prisoners, Communist Party members, men who were picked up off the street after a grenade has gone off, are clearly not the best witnesses for their own cases.

Unfortunately, given the present system, what they say cannot be verified, or contradicted. Almost all allegations cover detention immediately after arrest. The suspect has not yet graduated to the comparatively enviable status of prisoner that is, someone detained inside an official Israeli prison with certain rights.

I have heard complaints about marks on the wrists of prisoners with those leveled against police and military intelligence during the interrogation period after arrest, they are too trivial to be worth repeating.

The prevailing system makes it particularly hard to check. The code which identifies Arabs in the occupied areas, and within Israel as it existed before the 1948-49 war, is surprisingly liberal that those on the "black" list are almost nothing on their side. Anyone

can be arrested, restricted to a certain area, or held in prison for an indefinite period without any charge. The authorities can detain a person, or they cannot. It depends on how they feel.

The system is disgraceful. For the British, who feel moral obligations to the Arabs, to face-to-face with an approach apparently so alien, the only reaction is to say that the British are not responsible for themselves are responsible for.

It is based, very largely, on the 14 chapters and 170 articles of the 1948 Emergency Defense Laws which the British introduced under a UN mandate to deal with Jewish terrorism. Stern though the provisions were, they failed. Passionately, though Israeli jurists condemned them at the time as a contradiction of the most fundamental principles of justice, they have, with certain amendments, been carefully preserved.

The best objective witnesses of the system are the prisoners of Israel's detention centers are members of the international Red Cross. For various reasons, they cannot visit their prisoners. For one way or the other, if they confirm bad stories they previously told, they are expelled from the centers. If they deny them, the Israelis will exploit their statements.

An Israel refuses to accept the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention to apply to the occupied territories. Red Cross delegates have no access to the detention centers where prisoners are held. The Red Cross says they see prisoners in Israeli confinement.

If the Israeli representatives cite torture charges as fed—their criteria are phony—then the Red Cross must make a report. These reports are strictly secret. They are not published because they would prejudice the job they would be worth repeating.

Many observers believe that the Israelis, if they wish to commemorate the treatment of their case, should either give the Red Cross more facilities, or not believing end have a good group look for themselves.

The Olive Tree

Because I do not knit wool,*
Because I am always hunted
And my house is always raided,
Because I cannot own a piece of paper,
I shall carve my memoirs
On the homeyard olive tree.

I shall carve bitter reflections,
Scenes of love and of yearning
For my stolen orange grove
And the lost tombs of my dead.

I shall carve all my strivings
For the sake of remembrance,
For the time when I shall drown them
In the avalanche of triumph.

I shall carve the serial number
Of every stolen piece of land,
The spot of my village on the map
And the houses
And the trees
And all the wild blooms
That are blown up
Or uprooted.

I shall carve the names
Of all connoisseurs in torture,
The names of their prisons,
The trade-marks of their chains,
The archives of the jailors
And the maledictions.

I shall carve dedications,
To memories threatening to eternity,
To the sanguine soil of Dair Yassin
And Kufur Qasem.

I shall carve on top of all
The intense heights of the tragedy,
The pounding and the bitter strife
Which I bear
Up the ladder of grief
To the peak.

I shall carve the sun's beckonings
And the moon's whisperings
And what a skylark recalls
At a love-deserted well.

For the sake of remembrance,
For the sake of all
And every thing
I shall continue to carve
On the homeyard olive tree.

TAWFEEQ ZAVAD

* (*) Reference is made to Madame Lafarge who used to knit the names of traitors for French Revolutionaries.

Vietnam Has Its Deir Yassin!

WASHINGTON — Top U.S. Army officials unblinked Nov. 25, before members of the U.S. Congress details of the U.S. massacre of South Vietnamese villagers including color slides showing piles of dead bodies. The display to the U.S. Senate and House Armed Services committees followed shortly a White House statement on the March 16, 1968 massacre at the hamlet of Song My of between 300 and 600 Vietnamese men, women and children, including babies.

Radio Hanoi said Nov. 25 that the Song My massacre was only one of the innumerable bloody crimes perpetrated by the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys of South Vietnam.

It said "The most typical crimes are the massacre in Ba Lang, where over 1500 people were killed, that in Long Hing, where nearly 1,500 people were killed or wounded, and that in the prisons of Tay Ninh and Phu Con Dao, where nearly 1,000 people were killed or injured."

The March 16, 1968, U.S. massacre of South Vietnamese villagers at Song My is reminiscent of the April 9, 1948, Zionist massacre of 254 Palestinians at Deir Yassin, a village at the Western edge of occupied Jerusalem. The Palestine delegate of the Red Cross at the time, Jacques de Reynier, found 150 bodies thrown into a cistern, and another 40 or 50 at one side. In all he counted 254 dead, including 145 women of whom 25 were pregnant. Another 150 surviving women and children were stripped and paraded on open trucks through a Zionist quarter in Jerusalem, where they were stoned and spat on. An American lady, Bertha Spafford Vester, took 40 orphaned children into the Anna Spafford Nursing Home in Jerusalem.

A similar description of the U.S. massacre of South Vietnamese villagers last year at Song My was given Nov. 25 by a disabled U.S. Army veteran in a CBS radio interview.

The ex-GI, Paul Meadlo of Terre Haute, Ind., was interviewed by Mike Wallace. Here are excerpts of the interview: Wallace: He told to all of you, or to you particularly? Meadlo: Well, I was with him, 80, but the other three, four, guys heard it and so he stepped back about ten, 15, feet and he started shooting them, and he told me to start shooting. So I started shooting, I poured about four clips into the group.

Wallace: You fired four clips from your— Meadlo: He is, Wallace: And that's about — how many clips — I mean how many —

Meadlo: I carried 17 rounds on each clip.

Wallace: So you fired something like 67 shots— Meadlo: Right.

Wallace: And you killed how many? At that time?

Meadlo: Well, I fired them on automatic, so you can't — you just spray the area on them and you killed 'em. I know how many people 'cause they were going fast. So I might have killed ten or 15 of them.

Wallace: Men, women and children?

Meadlo: Men, women and children.

Wallace: And babies?

Meadlo: Oh, yes, that was?

Meadlo: So we started to gather them up, more people, and Meadlo: So we started to gather them up, more people, and Meadlo: So we started to gather them up, more people, and

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Meadlo: I don't know. It's just one of them things.

Wallace: How many people would you imagine were killed that day?

Meadlo: I'd say about 370.

Wallace: How do you arrive at that figure?

Meadlo: Just looking.

Wallace: You say, you think, that many people, and you yourself were responsible for how many of them?

Meadlo: I couldn't say.

Wallace: 25-50?

Meadlo: I couldn't say...Just too many.

Wallace: And how many men did the actual shooting?

Meadlo: Well, I really couldn't say that, either. There was other...there was another platoon in there and but I just couldn't say how many.

Wallace: But these civilians were lined up and shot. They weren't killed by crossfire?

Meadlo: They weren't lined up...they just pushed in a ravine and just settled 'squat-in'...and shot.

Wallace: What did these civilians...these, particularly the women and children, the old men what did they do. What did they say to you?

Meadlo: They weren't much saying to them. They just being pushed, and they were doing what they was told.

Wallace: They weren't begging or saying "No, no," or "Meadlo: Right. They was begging and saying, "No, no," and the mothers was hugging their children and, but they kept right on firing. Well, we kept right on firing. They was waving their hands and begging."

Wallace: Was that your most vivid memory of what you saw?

Meadlo: Right.

On Nov. 18, or 24 hours after the interview, an overwhelming majority in the Zionist Knesset (Parliament) backed Golda Meir's "message of congratulation" to President Nixon after his speech on Vietnam earlier this month.



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